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CZECHOSLOVAK SCRAP DRIVE FOR CEMENTED CARBIDE
AND INDUSTRIAL DIAMOND WASTE

Summary: The following article is a condensation of a de-
bate appearing in the Official Gazette of Czechoslovakia. This
debate is the result of the first effort to legislate a concen-
trated scrap collection drive for scarce raw materials. In the
past there have been many scrap drives (see CO-4-23794), mostly
sporadic, but none based on actual legislation.

The Czechoslovak Ministry of Light Industry, in conjunction with the Min-
istry of Metallurgy and the Ore Mines and of Heavy Machine Building, has
passed a decree whereby the collection of cemented carbide and industrial dia-
mond waste becomes obligatory. For the purpose of the decree, cemented carbide
waste is defined as all waste from cemented carbide steels, as well as carbon
steel tips of discarded and unusable cutting tools. Industrial diamond waste
is defined as all waste from industrial diamonds, as well as discarded and un-
usable diamond-cutting tools.

The decree makes it incumbent on any person under whose jurisdiction such
waste occurs to collect it in a safe place. Carbon steel tips of
cutting tools and other cemented carbides must be separated from their mount-
ings and sorted according to size and type. Diamonds, however, shall be re-
moved only by the Enterprise of the First Five-Year Plan, a National Enterprise,
in Sumpava. All such stored waste must be offered to the Enterprise of the
First Five-Year Plan for purchase within 10 days after the first of each month.

The Enterprise of the First Five-Year Plan is required, in turn, to pur-
chase all waste offered within one month of the date of the offer at the latest.
In the case of cemented carbides offered for purchase, the Enterprise of the
First Five-Year Plan may delay purchasing such waste until there is available an
accumulation of at least one half a kilogram.

The decree became effective on 1 December 1952.

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